

REMARKS

Based on the above amendments and the following remarks, this application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-4 have been previously cancelled without prejudice in this application

Claims 5-9 stand rejected and have now been cancelled without prejudice in this application.

Claims 10-15 have now been added to this application.

Response to Objections to the Specification

The Applicant has amended the Abstract, Drawing and Written Description to address the Examiner's objections thereto. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that the objections have been overcome and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Regarding the Drawing, the Examiner stated, "while the priority document DE 100 39 817.0 contains a figure, no drawings have been filed in this application".
Applicant respectfully submits that a drawing of Fig. 1 was in fact filed in this case.
Support for the preceding statement is set forth, for example, in Applicant's Petition dated March 21, 2002 and the Decision on this Petition dated May 1, 2003.

Response to Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 5-9 for various reasons under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and/or second paragraphs. The Applicant has cancelled claims 5-9 and added new claims 10-15 which more particularly define the claimed invention. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that the outstanding rejections have been overcome and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

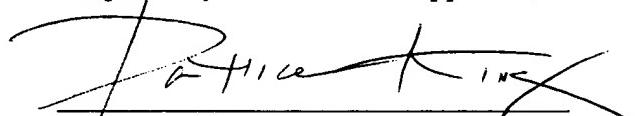
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and accordingly, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place the case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendment or correction be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge all required fees, including any extension and excess claim fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 06-0923. Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 C.F.R. 1.27.

Respectfully submitted for Applicant,



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